

In re the Application of

Inventors: M. TAKEDA, et al.

Application No.: New Patent Application

Filed: December 15, 2003

For: MICROPUMP, MICROPUMP UNIT INCLUDING THE MICROPUMP,  
SAMPLE PROCESSING CHIP FOR USE WITH THE UNIT, AND  
SHEET CONNECTOR FOR USE WITH THE UNIT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

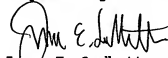
Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. JP '683, JP '400 and JP '984 are discussed in the background section of the application at page 2, line 18 et seq., page 4, line 3 et seq. and page 5, line 19 et seq.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: December 15, 2003

JEL/apg  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 18612.03110  
STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.  
1615 L Street, NW, Suite 850  
P.O. Box 34387  
Washington, DC 20043-4387  
Telephone: (202) 785-0100  
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200

